

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-18

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 009256

STADIS////////////////////

SUBJECT: NASA STATION RENEWAL NEGOTIATIONS

1. SEPTEL PROVIDES INSTRUCTIONS FOR EMBASSY'S NEW NEGOTIATING SESSION ON NASA RENEWAL WHICH ESSENTIALLY APPROVE AND ELABORATE ON YOUR OWN RECOMMENDATION CONTAINED TANANARIVE 45. ITEM ON GOMR INCOME FROM NASA'S PAYMENTS FOR INTELSAT CIRCUITS LEASED THROUGH PTT TRANSMITTED PURSUANT TO DEPT'S DESIRE THAT GOMR BE REMINDED AT EVERY STEP OF COST TO THEM IF STATION IS FORCED TO MOVE ELSEWHERE.

2. AS FURTHER BACKGROUND, IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR YOU TO KNOW THAT NASA PLANNING SEVERAL IMPORTANT SATELLITE LAUNCHINGS NEXT FEW MONTHS WHICH REQUIRE TRACKING COVERAGE FROM MADAGASCAR AREA. IF EARLY RENEWAL CANNOT BE ACHIEVED, OR IF THERE NO INDICATION THAT NEGOTIATIONS CAN BE DRAGGED OUT AS MUCH AS SIX MONTHS, NASA MAY BE FACED WITH COSTLY AND DIFFICULT TASK OF MODIFYING JOHANNESBURG STATION TO MEET SOME OF THEIR NEEDS, AND STATIONING TRACKING SHIP IN MALAGASY REGION TO MEET REMAINDER. THAT

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IS WHY YOUR JUDGMENT AS TO TIMING WILL BE VIRTUALLY AS

IMPORTANT AS THE NEGOTIATIONS THEMSELVES.

3. FYI ONLY AT THIS TIME: NASA WILL BE PREPARED TO OFFER
DOLS 100,000 ANNUAL RENTAL EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 1974

AT SUBSEQUENT NEGOTIATING SESSIONS IF NECESSARY, BUT
THIS AMOUNT WOULD HAVE TO BE SQUEEZED OUT OF STATION'S
OPERATING BUDGET. RUSH

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Message Attributes

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